

CALIFORNIA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

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NOTICES AND REPORTS

Council Meeting Minutes

Tentative Draft: Minutes of the 365th Meeting of the Council of the California Medical Association at the Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles, Saturday, September 24, 1949.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman MacLean, who yielded the chair to Chairman Shipman upon the latter's arrival, in Conference Room Number 5 of the Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles, at 9:30 a.m., Saturday, September 24, 1949.

Roll Call:

Present were President Kneeshaw, President-Elect Cass, Speaker Alesen, Councilors Ball, Crane, Henderson, Anderson, Ray, Montgomery, Lum, Pollock, Green, Shipman, West, MacLean, Frees and Thompson, and Secretary Garland. Absent: Vice-Speaker Charnock, Councilor Bailey and Editor Wilbur.

A quorum present and acting.

Present by invitation were John Hunton, executive secretary; Howard Hassard, legal counsel; William P. Wheeler, assistant executive secretary; Ben H. Read, executive secretary of the Public Health League of California; Ed Clancy, field secretary, and county society executive secretaries Waterson of Alameda, Cochems of Los Angeles, Venables of Kern, Tobitt of Orange and Young of San Diego.

Present by invitation for periods during the meeting were Doctors Henry Gardner and William Gardener and Mr. William M. Bowman of California Physicians' Service; Dr. E. L. Bruck, former Councilor; Dr. Eugene F. Hoffman, A.M.A. Delegate; Dr. Wilton L. Halverson, state director of public health; Doctors Stanton Farnsworth and Glenn A. Westphal of the Association of Local Health Officers; Dr. Notkin and Mr. Hart of the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation of the State Department of Education; Dr. Gerald G. Gill of the Western Orthopedic Association; and Dr. Lester I. Newman and Messrs. Gordon Snow, John Knox and B. F. Meekins, representing compensation insurance underwriters.

1. Minutes for Approval:

(a) Minutes of the 364th meeting of the Council, held July 9, 1949, were approved as drafted and circulated.

(b) Minutes of the 215th meeting of the Executive Committee, held August 18, 1949, were approved as amended; the amendment was in the report of a special committee to consider eligibility requirements for election to Affiliate Membership, the amendment holding that members who had been engaged in private practice should not be eligible for election to Affiliate Membership but should be eligible for a reduction of dues on proof of illness or full-time postgraduate study.

2. Membership:

(a) A report of membership as of September 22, 1949, was received and ordered filed.

(b) On motion duly made and seconded, 46 members whose 1949 dues had been received since the last Council meeting were voted reinstatement as active members.

(c) On motion duly made and seconded, one member whose 1948 and 1949 dues had been received since the last Council meeting was voted reinstatement as an active member.

(d) On motion duly made and seconded in each instance, three members were elected to Retired Membership. These were:

David Hadden, Alameda County.

William R. McGrew, Alameda County.

Ernest G. Motley, Orange County.

(e) On motion duly made and seconded in each instance, four applicants were elected to Associate Membership. These were:

Myron W. Husband, Humboldt County.

A. J. Fidler, San Diego County.

Thomas W. Hagerty, Ventura County.

Dorothy B. Sproul, Ventura County.

(f) On motion duly made and seconded, seven applicants were elected to Affiliate Membership. These were:

Kern County: Robert D. Payne, S. Robert Polito, Keith W. Spaulding, Eugene P. Wagner.

San Francisco County: Rey Cardon, Theodore W. Loring, Edward E. Garvey.

It was pointed out that under the provisions adopted by the Council for eligibility for Affiliate

Membership, future applications of this type were to be handled in the office and need not come before the Council.

(g) On motion duly made and seconded in each instance, eleven applicants were granted a reduction of dues for illness or postgraduate study. These were:

Fresno County: Marvin J. Naman.

Kern County: William A. Craig, F. E. Davis, Robert M. Taylor.

Orange County: George H. Merryman, Jr.

San Francisco County: Barnet Bonar, Lester Sawyer, Arthur Siegel.

San Luis Obispo County: George O. French.

San Mateo County: Lamar B. Harper, Albert A. Miller.

(h) On motion duly made and seconded in each instance, two applicants were elected to Life Membership. These were:

Alameda County: Harold H. Meredith, William R. Reud.

3. *Financial:*

(a) A report of bank balances as of September 22, 1949, was received and ordered filed.

(b) A report of receipts and expenditures for August and for the two months of the fiscal year ended August 31, 1949, previously sent to all Councilors, was ordered filed.

4. *Public Policy and Legislation:*

Mr. Read reported on the propositions and candidates to appear on the special election ballot of November 8, 1949.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to go on record as approving and supporting Proposition No. 1, a measure to provide loan funds for school construction.

5. *California Physicians' Service:*

Dr. Henry Gardner, secretary of C.P.S., reported that as of September 1, 1949, there were 10,200 physician members and over 822,000 beneficiary members of C.P.S. and that new members were coming in at the rate of 16,000 to 18,000 monthly. He also reported that C.P.S. now has its own public relations department and has distributed various pieces of literature.

Mr. Bowman, executive director of C.P.S., distributed a financial statement as of August 31, 1949, reported that the Fresno office had been reopened at the request of local physicians and that Fresno County is now operating as a part of the northern divisional setup under C.P.S.

Mr. Bowman further reported that the board of trustees of C.P.S. has established basic principles for contracting with counties for the care of indigents and that such contracts would be made only in close cooperation with county medical societies. He also stated that about 6,000 individual contracts are now in force and that only about 15 per cent of applicants for such contracts have been declined or rated up.

Dr. Gardner, in response to a question, stated that a proposal for correction of excessive payments for certain diagnostic medical services was under consideration by the trustees.

6. *Committees:*

(a) The chairman nominated, and the Council confirmed, Doctors Edwin L. Bruck (chairman), James Graeser and Carl Howson as a Committee on Chronic Diseases, to meet with officials of the State Department of Public Health.

(b) The chairman nominated, and the Council confirmed, Doctors William L. Bender (chairman), Jesse L. Carr, R. G. Frey, F. E. Jacobs, J. G. Manning, Edgar Hagg, William Neff, James Graeser, M. Horwitz and H. J. Kirchner as the C.M.A.'s recommendations to C.P.S. for its Fee Schedule Committee.

7. *Committee on Scientific Work:*

The Secretary reported that the Committee on Scientific Work had met with the section officers on September 18 to outline the program for the 1950 Annual Session and to arrange for scientific exhibits and medical motion pictures.

8. *Alameda and Contra Costa County Medical Societies:*

Dr. Lum stated that a proposal was under consideration for the merger of the county medical societies in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. He requested discussion and any expression of disapproval which the Councilors might have but none was offered.

9. *Association of Local Health Officers:*

Doctors Stanton Farnsworth (Oakland) and Glenn A. Westphal (Riverside County) appeared as representatives of the Association of Local Health Officers and expressed the thanks of their association for the cooperation extended by the Association. [The Chairman has named Doctors Wilbur, Askey, Alesen and Shipman as a committee to meet with this organization; these names subject to Council confirmation.]

10. *Blood Bank Commission:*

(a) The Chairman nominated Dr. John Lawrence of Los Angeles as a member of the Blood Bank Commission, to succeed Dr. E. Richmond Ware, resigned. The Council confirmed this appointment.

(b) A communication from Dr. John R. Upton, chairman of the Blood Bank Commission, was read, relative to the situation in Santa Barbara, Ventura and San Luis Obispo counties, where a tri-county blood bank was almost through the organizational stage when representatives of the American National Red Cross entered the picture and succeeded in blocking the new establishment. Dr. Upton asked for instructions in advance of a meeting scheduled for October 10 to review the situation. He recommended that the community type blood bank heretofore approved by the Council be reaffirmed as the best type of blood bank for Santa Barbara and neighboring counties.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to approve the plan outlined by Dr. Upton, in reaffirmation of the earlier decision in favor of community type blood banks which assess a service charge at cost and provide for a deposit to secure replacement of blood.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to plan a meeting with representatives of the Red Cross to discuss the entire problem. Representatives of the Council at this meeting are to be Doctors Upton, Garland and Shipman, with Dr. John W. Green, Councilor and member of the Blood Bank Commission of the A.M.A.; it is hoped to confer with Dr. Peter Owen of the American National Red Cross.

11. *Industrial Medical Fees:*

Dr. Cass reviewed the progress of his committee in meeting with a committee of insurance carriers and recommended that the compromise fee schedule previously reported to the Council be accepted, that a standing committee be named to adjust differences through a similar committee of the insurance carriers and that the former fee schedule be put into effect again until January 1, 1950, when the insurance companies would plan to institute the new schedule.

Dr. Gerald G. Gill reported that a meeting of representatives of the Western Orthopedic Association and of other specialty societies had been held ten days earlier and that the group had voted unanimously to support the Council in its adoption of the 1949 proposed fee schedule.

Mr. Gordon Snow, chief counsel for Pacific Indemnity Co., presented Dr. Lester I. Newman and Messrs. John Knox and B. F. Meekins as representatives of the insurance carriers' coordinating committee. Mr. Snow reviewed the events leading up to the present fee schedule situation and asked that the compromise fee schedule and the other recommendations of Dr. Cass' committee be favorably acted upon.

After considerable discussion, it was regularly moved, seconded and voted to adopt the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Council reaffirm its confidence in its previously recommended 1949 schedule of industrial medical and surgical fees, that the special committee meeting with the coordinating committee of the insurance companies be instructed to continue its joint meetings in an effort to effect mutually acceptable revisions, that the Association assure the insurance coordinating committee of its full support in seeking premium adjustments to cover the cost of equitable professional fees and that each committee be requested to use its best efforts in preventing discrimination against physicians or insurance companies for supporting the 1949 schedule.

12. *Proposed Drugless Practitioner School:*

Assemblyman Richard Dolwig, San Mateo County, appeared by invitation to request authority for members of the Association to serve as instructors at a school proposed to be established to provide addi-

tional training for a group of drugless practitioners now holding licenses under the Board of Medical Examiners. It was regularly moved, seconded and voted to refer this matter to the standing Committee on Hospitals, Dispensaries and Clinics.

13. *Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation:*

Dr. Herbert Notkin, medical consultant of the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation, Department of Education, State of California, introduced Mr. Hart, assistant director of the Bureau, and described the program and objectives of the bureau. Since its establishment, the bureau has placed 16,070 people in remunerative employment, at a cost of about \$7,000,000; these people have since repaid about \$2,500,000 in income taxes from such employment. Dr. Notkin expressed thanks to the Medical Advisory Committee of the bureau for aid and guidance in carrying out the medical and surgical aspects of the program.

14. *State Department of Public Health:*

Dr. Wilton L. Halverson, State Director of Public Health, reported that 1,644 cases of poliomyelitis had been reported in California to date this year and that the death rate was about 5 per cent. In July there were 18 deaths, 8 of them of persons above the age of 21. About 100 to 125 new cases are now being reported each week.

Dr. Halverson stated that a meeting would be held with the C.M.A. Committee on Chronic Diseases before any action would be taken on allocating federal funds which have recently become available for projects in heart disease and cancer. This meeting is scheduled for September 29, 1949.

Dr. Halverson distributed a statement of policy of the Hospital Advisory Committee of his department and expressed a desire to have a member of the Council named as a member of this committee.

Dr. Thompson reported on two meetings of the Hospital Advisory Committee to which he had been invited.

On motion regularly made and seconded, it was voted to appoint a special committee consisting of the president, the secretary and the legal counsel to draft a statement of policy of the Association relative to the contracting for medical care of indigents through private physicians and private hospitals and stating a policy relative to the use of state and/or federal funds for hospital construction.

15. *American Public Health Association:*

On motion regularly made and seconded, it was voted to authorize Doctors Louis Regan and William P. Shepard to represent the Association at the Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association, to be held in New York the week of October 24, 1949.

16. *Committee on Hospitals, Dispensaries and Clinics:*

A report was read from the Committee on Hospitals, Dispensaries and Clinics, in which it was considered inadvisable for an inspection and report to

be made on Weimar Joint Sanitarium. It was regularly moved, seconded and voted that a special committee consisting of Doctors John C. Sharp and Reginald Smart be appointed to make such an inspection for report to the Council.

17. *American Legion:*

A request was read from the American Legion, California Department, for participation in the formation and operation of a child health community development program. It was regularly moved, seconded and voted to defer action on this request until the program has been considered by the American Medical Association.

18. *California State Chamber of Commerce:*

A request for the signature of an officer of the Association on a letter soliciting physician memberships in the California State Chamber of Commerce was approved.

19. *Rural Health Conference:*

A request from Dr. Carroll B. Andrews for the appropriation of approximately \$1,000 to cover the cost of a rural health conference was approved.

20. *Committee on Private Health Insurance Plans:*

Dr. Lum, chairman (Ray and Ball, members) of a special committee to consider the advisability of a standardized type of accident and health insurance, reported that the committee had been studying the feasibility of arranging a schedule of minimum fees to apply under such insurance; the committee intends to continue these studies on all existing plans and will make a later report.

In regard to the California Interscholastic Protection Federation, Dr. Lum reported on his correspondence on this matter and it was regularly moved, seconded and voted that the general outline be approved in principle.

21. *Time and Place of Next Meeting:*

The time and place of the next meeting were left at the discretion of the Chairman, who tentatively announced November 19 or 26 as the likely date.

Adjournment.

SIDNEY J. SHIPMAN, *Chairman*
L. HENRY GARLAND, *Secretary*

In Memoriam

ADAMS, ELLIOTT LEIGH. Died in Lodi, September 5, 1949, aged 48, of a heart attack. Graduate of the University of Colorado School of Medicine, Denver, 1932. Licensed in California in 1932. Dr. Adams was a member of the San Joaquin County Medical Society, the California Medical Association, and the American Medical Association.



CHERRY, CREED FLANARY. Died in Los Angeles, September 18, 1949, aged 50, of a heart attack. Graduate of the University of Louisville School of Medicine, 1924. Licensed in California in 1928. Dr. Cherry was a member of the Los Angeles County Medical Association, the California Medical Association, and the American Medical Association.



PERRY, HERBERT BRAINERD. Died in Mare Island, August 31, 1949, aged 84, of pneumonia. Graduate of Bowdoin Medical School, Brunswick-Portland, 1890. Licensed in California in 1929. Dr. Perry was a member of the Sacramento Society for Medical Improvement, the California Medical Association, and the American Medical Association.



RAMSAY, ROBERT EWART. Died September 19, 1949, aged 73. Graduate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Los Angeles, 1917. Licensed in California in 1917. Dr. Ramsay was a retired member of the Los Angeles County Medical Association, the California Medical Association, and an Affiliate Fellow of the American Medical Association.

